

State of Iowa in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House will join me in congratulating him for receiving this recognition, and I wish him the best of luck in his studies and continuing career in education.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May 19–25 as National Emergency Medical Services Week. The goal of this important week is to encourage safety and to honor the dedication of those who provide day-to-day lifesaving services. Though this honorary title may only last a week, the highlighted message should be recognized throughout the entire year.

This year's theme is "EMS: One Mission. One Team." This powerful theme serves as a reminder that emergency providers work selflessly each and every day to aid those in need whenever the call may be heard. Though the titles may differ—paramedics, first responders, firefighters—they all strive to improve the communities in which we live and work.

One does not have to look past the recent tragedy in Boston to fully understand just how important emergency medical services are in our daily lives. The heroes on that dark day were ordinary citizens who rose up in the face of tragedy to treat the dozens of wounded runners and innocent bystanders.

It is my hope that everyone takes a moment to thank those around them who perform these life-saving services. They are America's true everyday heroes.

CONGRATULATING THE BOROUGH OF NEW BRIGHTON ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Borough of New Brighton on the 175th anniversary of its founding in 1838. The Borough of New Brighton is located on the east bank of the Beaver River, about two miles from its junction with the Ohio River.

The present site of New Brighton was first settled by United States Army Colonel Josiah Harmer, who built a blockhouse with the help of troops from nearby Fort McIntosh in 1788. William and David Constable surveyed and laid out the site of the new town, which they named Brighton, after their old home in England. Residents soon popularized the name to New Brighton, and the new town was incorporated as such by an Act of Assembly in 1838.

New Brighton's early settlers were skilled tradesmen drawn by good factory sites, water power, and the demand for their specialized skills. Others sought religious freedom and economic opportunity. Today, New Brighton's residents take pride in their community, which

balances suburban living with a walkable downtown area. New Brighton is one of Beaver County's Rivertowns, and it offers a variety of recreation and cultural attractions including Big Rock Park, the New Brighton Fishing Park, and the Merrick Art Gallery.

Mr. Speaker, fellow Members, please join me in congratulating the Borough of New Brighton on the 175th anniversary of its founding.

HONORING STEVE PATERNOSTER

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Steve Paternoster, who was recently selected as the National Restaurant Association's 2013 Cornerstone Humanitarian of the Year for his extraordinary contributions to his community and for his philanthropic service to others. Steve has selflessly dedicated his life to improving the lives of countless New Mexicans. An alumnus of New Mexico Military Institute, Steve now serves as CEO of the YMCA of Central New Mexico and is the owner of a successful restaurant. From donating about \$200,000 annually through his business to serving on local non-profit boards, he focuses on organizations that support chronic disease, the less fortunate, young adults at risk and the arts.

In 2009, Steve and his daughter Haley founded the Special Programs Youth Assistance Foundation to help troubled and disadvantaged youth in New Mexico, including those in Children's Drug Court and those suffering from domestic abuse. After losing Haley to a heroin overdose in 2010, Steve has made it his life's mission to help others overcome obstacles similar to those Haley and the Paternoster family faced. Steve also hosts an annual holiday dinner at his restaurant for troubled teenagers, their families, Court staff and their families.

Steve works closely with many other causes including Isshin Ryu, a non-profit organization designed to provide education, recreation and enrichment activities to disadvantaged youth. He also works with the Heart Gallery of New Mexico Foundation, which helps hard-to-place children in foster homes. Additionally, Steve is involved with New Mexico AIDS Services, the American Heart Association, the American Stroke Association, the Heart Hospital of New Mexico Foundation and Dismas House, which provides support for people with chronic illnesses.

I congratulate Steve on receiving this prestigious award and thank him for his hard work and for the many contributions he has made and will continue to make to New Mexico.

NORTHERN ROUTE APPROVAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 3) to approve the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this legislation, which is a transparent attempt to skirt federal law so that the majority can impose its own preferred outcome on the State Department's ongoing regulatory review of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Although my colleagues on the other side of the aisle make much of their professed commitment to regular order and distaste for earmarks, recent developments—including today's legislation—make clear that commitment is only as deep as it is convenient.

Regular order? We are now 37 days past due on delivering an FY 2014 Budget, and the majority still refuses to go to conference.

Earmarks? This legislation—which carves out numerous special exceptions for a single pipeline project benefitting one company—is clearly an earmark.

Mr. Chair, the decision as to whether to build the northern route of the Keystone XL pipeline should be made based on a complete and thorough evaluation of its impacts on our climate, energy security, water supply, job creation, air quality, balance of trade, human health and other relevant factors—not some hastily thrown together, ill-considered and politically driven exercise.

I urge a no vote.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH OSAKUE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Deborah Osakue is a senior at Hightowner High School in Fort Bend County, Texas. Her essay topic is: In your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

Our constitution was framed according to the Lockean social contract that government should have the "consent of the governed". As an African American female, I know that people have died and have spent their lives fighting to give me an opportunity to participate in the American political process. If I abstain from the political process, these people would have fought and died in vain. I owe the likes of Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, and Martin Luther King the respect of my participation in a democracy they toiled to create. The American system of government gives its citizens one crucial responsibility: to vote. Men and women have died on foreign and domestic soil all so that I can be free. To abstain from the democratic process is to spill their blood in contempt. It is undeniable that the practice of gerrymandering has been used to oppress minority voices. I know our political